Telecast of misguiding programmes by TV channels

717. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether programmes related to astrology and future predictions telecast by most of the TV channels misguide people on various social, matrimonial, financial and business issues;

(b) whether such information is proposed to be permitted by the Government unrestricted;

(c) whether the principles of scientific temper enshrined in the Constitution and in Twenty-Point-Programme has been rendered redundant; and

(d) whether Government proposes to take any action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No such complaint has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) All programme and advertisements telecast on TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the Cable TV network, are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Action is taken as per rules whenever violation of Codes are brought to the notice of the Government.

Regularization of services of SC/ST officers

718. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Director General of AIR and Doordarshan belonging to SC/ST category since the formation of Indian Broadcasting Programme Service (IBPS) cadre;

(b) whether it is a fact that senior most IBPS officer is officiating as acting DG and senior most officer in AIR belonging to minority community have not been regularized under reserved category for the post of DG Doordarshan;

(c) if so, reasons therefor; and

(d) whether CAT has passed an order for regularization of their services and if so, reasons for not implementing the orders of CAT?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Reservation for SC/ST is not applicable for the post of DG, AIR and DG, Doordarshan. Since the formation of Indian Broadcasting Programme Service [IB(P)S] on 05-11-1990, the following officers of IB(P)S belonging to SC category have held the office of DG, AIR and DG, Doordarshan:—

AIR

1. Shri A. R. Shinde (04.03.1987 to 03.06.1991)

2. Shri T.R. Malakar (28.02.2001 to 28.02.2002)